

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting osteoclast-mediated bone resorption, comprising inhibiting activity of a gene product encoded by osteoclast associated gene OC14, wherein said osteoclast-associated gene OC14 comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 50, wherein said activity of a gene product encoded by OC14 is inhibited by administering a compound that inhibits the activity of said gene product, and wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 10% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

~~tggageagag gtttceattg tgteteteag agcagaaaeg gttggeeent gtgttgeaac ecteageate
geagtgetta taegaattet gaetaeatte ctgatgggtg gtttegettg etttaacata aaggaaaaga
tatttattte ttttgeetgg ettecaaaagg ccaeggtcca ggetgecatt ggetetgttg etetggacae
ggaagattee caeggagaga ageagetgga agaetatggg atggatgtge tgaegggtgga atttttggee
ateetecatta eageaccaat tgggaageeta ctgattgggt tgetgggtte cagggttett cagaaatctg
aacategaac egaagaggag gtteaaggag agaettetge acacatteag aggaageetg aggatteeat
taeggaaagee tgatggaeaa tgtttaccat cccaaeeaaa aggtttttgga ecteeaaeaa cegggaacae
tttaetteee tttgaactea aagaaaaett ccegtggaat tteataagea aacaaaattag aaagetttae
getgetaaca gtaecteagg tgtttaette ctcagaaaga ceggaggaea ggttaettea gaaagtgaga
gaaagtaatt tggacaaata aaacatteae gatttttgt (SEQ ID NO:50).~~

2. - 25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 1, wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of a fusion protein, a polypeptide, a peptidomimetic, an antisense polynucleotide, a prodrug, an antibody, a small molecule inhibitor, or a ribozyme.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 1, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 1.5-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 1, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 3-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 1, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 5-fold in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 1, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 50% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 1, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 75% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 25~~ claim 1, wherein the activity of said gene product is decreased by at least 90% in the presence of said compound, as compared to the activity of said gene product in the absence of said compound.